

Remarks/Arguments

The Examiner allows claim 14, rejects claims 7-9, and objects to claims 10-12. The applicants cancel claims 7-9 and amend claim 10. Claims 10-12 and 14 remain pending.

35 U.S.C. §103(a) (Claims 7-9)

The Examiner rejects claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fite et al. (U.S. 2003/0123767) in view of Fujii JP Patent No. 04008143. Although the applicants respectfully disagree, the applicants cancel claims 7-9 in this response to advance the case to allowance. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in a continuation or divisional as appropriate.

Objections (Claims 10-12)


The Examiner objects to claims 10-12 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and states that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The applicants amend claim 10 according to the Examiner's statement to overcome the objections to claim 10-12.

Application No. 10/687,388
Amdt. Dated October 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2006
Docket No. 10006881-1

The applicants believe that claims 10-12 and 14 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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